at retail outlets of Bangalore and Rajkot market are adulterated;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the groundnut oil is adulterated with caster-oil and cotton-seed oil which is injurious to health; and

(c) if so, what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) As per News item published in the 'Times of India' dated 20th September, 1991 sample surveys conducted at the instance of NDDB indicated that filtered groundnut oil in loose form at retail outlets of Bangalore and Rajkot markets is normally adulterated. Adulterants were castor/cottonseed oil.

Cottonseed oil is an edible oil. Castor oil is an irritant to the gastro-intestinal mucos and its mixing with edible oil is prohibited under the provision of PFA Rules, 1955.

(c) State Governments have been issued instructions to take action under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act so as to prevent adulteration of edible oils including groundnut oil.

Import of edible oil from USA

3123. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have explored the possibility of importing edible oil from the U.S.A. to meet the present shortage;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to avail of PL-480 for the purpose of stage 3 schemes for public distribution; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Recently, there was an offer of commodity assistance on grant basis from the USAID under the Title III new PL-480 programme offering assistance of 25,000 to 50,000 MTs of vegetable oil for 4 years. The Government has decided that the handling and distribution of this edible oil will be entrusted to the State Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (STC) and who may auction it at the ports. A proposal has gone to AID, Washington recommending assistance of 25,000 MTs of edible oils under this scheme.

Distribution of Palmolein and Dhara oil

3124. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether retail sale of Palmolein and Dhara edible oil is being done by three main branches of Super Bazar at Connaught Circus, Patel Nagar and I.N.A.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether retail sale of these items is not being done in other branches of Super Bazar opened in different localities of Delhi; if so, the reasons thereof; and

(d) whether these items of edible oils have been categorised as items of Public Distribution System?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During past 4 months, Dhara & Palmolein were sold on monthly average quantity of 96.1 MT & 10,500 litres respectively.

(c) No, Sir. However, the availability of these oils is not adequate for sale through all mini branches regularly. Depending upon their availability in sufficient quantity from M/s. Hindustan Vegetable Oil Corporation and M/s. Gujarat Coop. Milk Marketing Federation, Super Bazar sells these edible oils regularly to its consumers through its branches situated in different localities of Delhi.

(d) Government allocates imported edible oil to States/UTs for Public Distribution System. Lifting & distribution of the allocated oil is the responsibility of State Government/U.T. Administration, "Dhara" is a product of National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) and the Government has at present, no proposal to distribute it through the Public Distribution System. However, Edible oil is one of the items of Public distribution System.

Curtailment of Public Distribution System

3125. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the IMF authorities are suggesting for curtailment of the Public Distribution System in the country and reduction in food subsidy; and

(b) if so, what has been the reaction of Government of India thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Ration card holders registered with Fair Price Shop No. 636

3126. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ration card holders registered with Fair Price Shop No. 636, South Moti Bagh, New Delhi and details of rationed articles supplied to this shop every month and name of the shopholder;

(b) whether Government is aware that this Fair Price Shop owner transfers a lot of rationed articles to a floor mill in Lawrance Road and deprives ration card holders of their ration;

(c) whether Government is aware that this Fair Price Shop owner has about 400 to 500 bogus ration cards registered with it;

(d) whether officers of circle No. 36 are collaborating with him in this; and

(e) if so, the action being taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) It has been reported by Delhi Administration that a fair price shop No. 6361 and not 636 is functioning in South Moti Bagh, New Delhi. As in November, 1991, 1066 foodcards were registered with the said fair price shop. The name of the shopholder is Shri Ishwa Chand Jain. The quantity of rationed article lifted by the F.P.S. during the months of Obtober and November, 1991 are as follows:—

Commodity (Qty. in Quintals)	October, 91	November 91
(i) Wheat	10	90
(ii) Rice . .	10	50
(iii) Sugar . .	29	40

(b) to (e) A complaint regarding diversion of wheat by F.P.S. No. 6361 was received in the Enforcement Branch of Food Supplies & Consumer Affairs, Delhi Administration on 4-12-91. On checking the complaint was not found substantiated. No other complaint regarding registration of bogus cards with F.P.S. No. 6361 has been received by Delhi Administration.

आय के आधार पर दो प्रकार के राशन कार्ड जारी किया जाना

3127. श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली को और अधिक सार्थक बनाने के लिए आय के आधार पर दो प्रकार के राशन कार्ड प्रारंभ करने के संबंध में कोई प्रस्ताव सरकार के विचाराधीन है ;